

CLAIMS

The subject matter claimed is:

1. A handheld combination hole puncher and eyelet setter tool comprising:

5 an elongated handle having a first end and a second end, wherein said first end comprises an axially extending hole and said second end is adapted to receive an impact force;

a plurality of interchangeable hole punches and setters, each of said hole punches and setters adapted to be slidably 10 mounted in said axially extending hole; and

a holder disposed in said axially extending hole whereby a hole punch or setter mounted in said axially extending hole is removably held in place such that when said impact force is delivered to the second end of the elongated handle, said impact 15 force is transferred to said hole punch or setter.

2. The handheld combination hole puncher and eyelet setter tool of claim 1 further comprising an air pressure relief hole in communication with said axially extending hole.

3. The handheld combination hole puncher and eyelet setter 20 tool of claim 1 wherein the elongated handle is substantially cylindrical in shape.

4. The handheld combination hole puncher and eyelet setter tool of claim 1 wherein each of the plurality of hole punches comprises a cylindrical shank having a bit at one end.

5. The handheld combination hole puncher and eyelet setter tool of claim 4 wherein the bit comprises a sharp annular edge for cutting.

10 6. The handheld combination hole puncher and eyelet setter tool of claim 5 wherein each of the plurality of hole punches further comprises a disposal tunnel, said disposal tunnel extending from the sharp annular edge through the cylindrical shank to a disposal hole thereby providing an exit for cut material.

15 7. The handheld combination hole puncher and eyelet setter tool of claim 5 wherein the plurality of hole punches comprise bits of different size.

8. The handheld combination hole puncher and eyelet setter tool of claim 1 wherein each of the plurality of setters comprises a cylindrical shaft having a bit at one end, said bit adapted to set eyelets.

9. The handheld combination hole puncher and eyelet setter tool of claim 1 wherein the holder comprises an o-ring.

10. An apparatus for storing a handheld combination hole puncher and eyelet setter tool and a plurality of hole punches and setters, said apparatus comprising:

a cylindrical base having a top, a bottom, and a side wall; a main hole in the top of said base adapted to receive said handheld combination hole puncher and eyelet setter tool such that said handheld combination hole puncher and eyelet setter tool is maintained in an upright position; and

a plurality of secondary holes in the top of said base, each of said secondary holes adapted to receive one of said hole punches or setters.

11. The apparatus of claim 10 further comprising a cover, said cover being cylindrical in shape having a closed top and an open bottom, said cover being transparent.

12. The apparatus of claim 11 wherein said cover comprises a threaded portion and wherein the cylindrical base further comprises a set of threads in the side wall, said threaded portion of the cover adapted to rotatably engage the set of threads in the side wall of the base.

13. The apparatus of claim 10 wherein the base is comprised of foam.

14. The apparatus of claim 10 wherein the main hole is located in the center of the base and the secondary holes are 5 circularly arranged around the main hole.

15. A method for installing an eyelet into a piece of material using a combination hole punch and eyelet setter, said method comprising:

selecting a hole punch corresponding in size to the eyelet 10 and installing it into the combination hole punch and eyelet setter tool;

punching a hole in the material at the desired location by striking the combination hole punch and eyelet setter tool with a mallet or hammer such that the hole punch cuts the material;

15 interchanging the hole punch with a setter of corresponding size in the combination hole punch and eyelet setter tool; and

setting the eyelet using the setter installed in the combination hole punch and eyelet setter by striking the combination hole punch and eyelet setter with a mallet or hammer 20 such that the setter sets the eyelet.

16. A hole puncher and eyelet setter kit comprising:
a handheld combination hole puncher and eyelet setter tool
comprising
an elongated handle having a first end and a second
5 end, wherein said first end comprises an axially
extending hole and said second end is adapted to
receive an impact force,
a plurality of interchangeable hole punches and
setters, each of said hole punches and setters
10 adapted to be slidably mounted in said axially
extending hole, and
a holder disposed in said axially extending hole
whereby a hole punch or setter mounted in said
axially extending hole is removably held in place
15 such that when said impact force is delivered to
the second end of the elongated handle, said
impact force is transferred to said hole punch or
setter; and
a storage apparatus comprising
20 a cylindrical base having a top, a bottom, and a side
wall,
a main hole in the top of said base adapted to receive
said handheld combination hole puncher and eyelet
setter tool such that said handheld combination

hole puncher and eyelet setter tool is maintained in an upright position, and a plurality of secondary holes in the top of said base, each of said secondary holes adapted to receive one of said plurality of hole punches and setters.

17. The hole puncher and eyelet setter kit of claim 16 wherein said storage apparatus further comprises a cover, said cover being cylindrical in shape having a closed top and an open bottom, said cover being transparent.

18. The hole puncher and eyelet setter kit of claim 17 wherein said cover comprises a threaded portion and wherein the cylindrical base further comprises a set of threads in the side wall, said threaded portion of the cover adapted to rotatably engage the set of threads in the side wall of the base.

19. The hole puncher and eyelet setter kit of claim 16 wherein the base is comprised of foam.

20. The hole puncher and eyelet setter kit of claim 16 wherein the main hole is located in the center of the base and the secondary holes are circularly arranged around the main hole.